

Amendments to the Drawings:

Attached hereto after page 23 of this paper is a Replacement Drawing Sheet in which the label for item 38 of Fig. 3 has been amended to read "Pulse Width Modulating Circuit."

Attachment: (1) Replacement Drawing Sheet

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-15, 19-33, 37, 39-42, 46-52 and 56 are pending herein. Claims 16-18, 34-36, 38, 43-45 and 53-55 have been cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer. Claims 1, 19, 37, 39, 47, 48 and 49 have been amended to recite first and second electrodes in direct contact with the electron emitter. This amendment is supported at pages 48-50 of the specification and Figs. 9-10, for example. Applicants respectfully submit that no new matter has been added.

1. Upon further review of the species elected in response to the Examiner's Election of Species requirement, Applicants realized that independent claim 39 also reads on the elected species (i.e., Figs. 27-28). Accordingly, claim 39 has been maintained in this application.
2. The objection to the disclosure is noted, but deemed moot in view of the Replacement Drawing Sheet filed herewith.
3. The rejection of claim 14 under 112, second paragraph is noted, but deemed moot in view of amended claim 14 submitted above.
4. Claims 1-2, 14, 19-20, 32, 39-40, 46-50 and 56 were rejected under §102(b) over Itoh. To the extent that this rejection may be applied against the amended claims, it is respectfully traversed.

Independent claims 1, 19, 39, 47, 48 and 49 have been amended to recite first and second electrodes in direct contact with the electron emitter. This limitation distinguishes the amended claims from Itoh, because in the configuration disclosed by Itoh, both of the upper and lower electrodes are **not** in direct contact with the emitter. Specifically, as is clearly shown in Fig. 1 of Itoh, the anode electrode (104) is separated from the emitter (107) by a phosphor layer (105), a vacuum space and a gate electrode (108).

In view of the above, Applicants respectfully submit that Itoh does not teach each and every element recited in the amended independent claims. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the above rejection of independent claims 1, 19, 39, 47, 48 and 49 and dependent claims 2, 14, 20, 32, 40, 46, 50 and 56 be reconsidered and withdrawn.

5. Claims 10, 28, 41 and 51 were rejected under §103(a) over Itoh in view of Doyle and claims 11, 29, 42 and 52 were rejected under §103(a) over Itoh in view of Kuno. These rejections are respectfully traversed, because all of these claims ultimately depend from the amended independent claims discussed above, and those amended independent claims are patentable for the reasons explained above.

For at least the forgoing reasons, Applicants respectfully submit that all pending claims herein define patentable subject matter over the art of record.

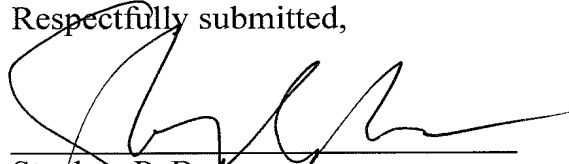
In closing the Office Action does not contain any rejection of independent claim 37. Thus, Applicants presume that the PTO intended to indicate that claim to be allowable in the Office Action.

If the Examiner believes that contact with Applicants' attorney would be advantageous toward the disposition of this case, the Examiner is herein requested to call Applicants' attorney at the phone number noted below.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees associated with this communication or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-1446.

November 30, 2006
Date

Respectfully submitted,



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SPB/JAW/gmh

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